

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated March 13, 2003. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-17 are under consideration in this application. Claims 1-3 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim applicants' invention.

Additional Amendments

The claims are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better disclose or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formality Rejections

The drawings filed on June 12, 2000 were objected to without specified reason. As discussed during the phone call with the Examiner on September 3, 2003, Applicants hereby requested the Examiner to indicate the reason in a subsequent office action.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. As indicated, claim 1 has been amended as required by the Examiner. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the outstanding informality rejection is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

Prior Art Rejections

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,263,279 to Bianco et al. (hereinafter "Bianco"), and claims 2-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bianco in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,791,249 to Santoro

(hereinafter "Santoro"). Pippin (6,278,402) was cited as being pertinent to the present application. These rejections have been carefully considered, but are most respectfully traversed.

The input terminal equipment of golf play information, as now recited in claim 1, comprises: a pocket-sized (page 4, line 2) terminal equipment main body *A* portable for a golf player having displaying means *2* for displaying a plan layout *a1* of a golf course to be displayed on said terminal equipment main body and a corresponding sectional layout *a2* of the golf course showing elevations thereof (page 4, line 7-9), and an input member *6* for inputting golf play results into said terminal equipment main body *A*. The displaying means *2* further displays an enlarged diagram of a putting green portion of the golf course after the putting green portion of the golf course is indicated by the input member *6* (page 6, lines 27-19; claim 12).

The invention, as now recited in claim 2, is also directed to an analyzing system of golf play information, comprising: at least one pocket-sized terminal equipment main body *A* and a respective data input member *6* portable for a respective golf player ("*terminal equipment main bodies carried by the respective players in the team or in several parties are managed collectively by a cradle*" page 2, line 20-21); a computer *8* for editing and analyzing data loaded from said terminal equipment main body *A*; a cradle *5* dedicated (page 4, lines 15, 26-27) for loading said terminal equipment main body and collectively managing (page 2, line 21) the data from said terminal equipment main body *A* into said computer *8*; and an output mechanism *b3* for outputting information edited or analyzed by said computer *8*. The computer is connected with the Virtual Training Repository (VTR)¹ to retrieve visual information therein (page 9, line 17; claim 5). The computer further ranks (page 8, line 24) and averages (page 8, line 26) play results of different players inputted via respective terminal equipment main bodies (claim 9). The output mechanism *b3* includes a printer *9* or a copy machine *10* (claim 10).

The invention, as now recited in claim 13, is also directed to an input terminal equipment of golf play information, comprising: a pocket-sized terminal equipment main body *A* portable for a golf player having a plan layout of a golf course to be displayed on said terminal equipment main body, and an electronic pen *6* for *plotting* (page 4, line 23) golf play results into said terminal equipment main body *A*. The electronic pen is used to click an arrival position (page 5, line 30) or draw a trajectory (page 2, line 25) of a golf ball on the plan layout (page 2, line 27; page 4, last two paragraphs; claim 14). The terminal equipment main body *A* calculates a carry or residual distance based upon information of the arrival point or the trajectory of a golf ball

on the plan layout (page 6, lines 13-15; claim 15). The carry or the residual distance is displayed by the displaying means (page 6, lines 15-16; claim 16). The displaying means further displays an enlarged diagram of a putting green portion of the golf course after the electronic pen clicks (page 6, lines 27-29; claim 17).

Applicants respectfully contend that none of the cited references teaches or suggests (1) input terminal equipment of golf play information displaying a plan layout *a1* of a golf course and a corresponding sectional layout *a2* of the golf course showing elevations thereof (claim 1); (2) an analyzing system of golf play information including a cradle *5* dedicated for loading said terminal equipment main body and collectively managing (page 2, line 21) the data from different terminal equipment main bodies carried by different players into the computer (claim 2); or (3) an electronic pen *6* for *plotting* golf play results into a pocket-sized terminal equipment main body *4* (claim 13).

Regarding Feature (1), Bianco (Fig. 3) and Pippin (Figs. 1 and 7) merely show a plan layout of a golf course, but not any corresponding sectional layout of the golf course showing elevations thereof. Santoro is silent in this regard.

Regarding Feature (2), the relevant portion (col. 7, lines 8-17) in Bianco was relied upon by the Examiner to teach the cradle of the invention. However, the relevant portion in Bianco only teaches changing the memory module 21 (col. 6, lines 64-65) for different course maps via a digital I/O interface 208 (col. 7, lines 9-11; col.6, line 64). Both the digital I/O interface 208 and the removable module 210 in Bianco (Fig. 2) are incorporated into a pocket-sized terminal 200 carried by a gulf player, rather dedicated for physically loading at least one pocket-sized terminal 200 carried by a gulf player as the cradle of the invention. The cradle 68 in Pippin (Fig. 2) is carried by a cart-based unit (1) to charge one hand-held unit 18 at a time ("*cradle 68 preferably includes a battery 64... for providing energy from the battery 64 to the hand-held unit 18*" col. 13, lines 41-48) or (2) to transmit GPS location and distance information from the hand-held unit 18 to the *cart-base unit 20* (col. 13, lines 49-52), rather than collectively managing any data from several different terminal equipment main bodies carried by different players into the *computer*. Santoro is silent in this regard.

Regarding Feature (3), the digitizer pen of Santoro is relied upon by the Examiner to teach the electric pen of the invention. However, the digitizer pen is connected to the computer via a wire 5 such that it is not portable by a golf player, and it requires a horizontal working

1. Virtual Training Repository (US DARPA program) <http://www.ida.org/DIVISIONS/csed/vtr/>

surface which is very difficult to maintain on a golf course. As such, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine the digitizer pen of Santoro with the teaching in Bianco. Even if, arguendo, a person of ordinary skill were motivated to combine the teachings in Santoro and Bianco, such a combination would still fall short in fully meeting Feature (3) since the digitizer pen of Santoro (Fig. 1) only allows finger-pressing (rather than hand-*plotting*) results into a computer (rather than a pocket-sized terminal equipment main body A) in either Santoro or Bianco.

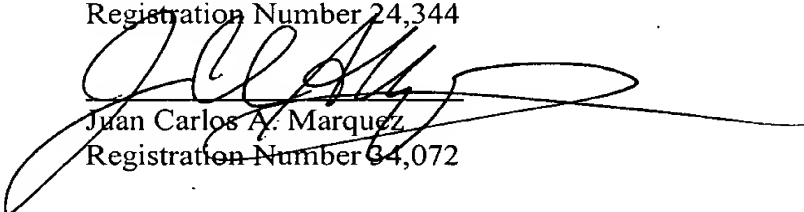
As such, the present invention as now claimed in independent claims 1, 2 and 13 is distinguishable and thereby allowable over the rejections raised in the Office Action. The withdrawal of the outstanding prior art rejections is in order, and is respectfully solicited.

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art reference upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicant respectfully contends that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

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